

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 16-20 and 39-48 are pending in the application, with claims 16 and 19 being the independent claims. Claims 1-15 and 21-38 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 39-48 are sought to be added. Support for the new claims can be found in the original claims and throughout the specification. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Response to Restriction Requirement and Election of Species

In reply to the Office Action dated January 28, 2004, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group 13, represented by claims 16-20. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

Further to the species election requirement, Applicants also hereby provisionally elect the marker molecule comprising a molecule provided by SEQ ID NO: 3 and MBP-95aa as the protein of known molecular weight; and TMR as the label. Claims 16-20, 39-43, 45, 46 and 48 read on these elected species. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

This election is made with traverse.

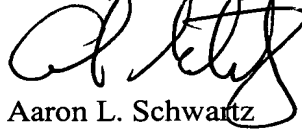
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and the Requirement for Election of Species, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

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